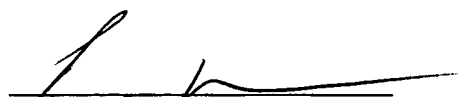


PATENT

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment claim 1 has been amended to properly reflect antecedent basis. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1.

2. (Amended) A permutation switch for switching wavelength-division multiplexed signals received from one or more optical waveguides, comprising:

(a) a substrate having at least one surface;

1. (b) a single-mode to multi-mode backward coupler, coupled to said surface of said substrate, for receiving single-mode wavelength division multiplexed signals from said one or more optical waveguides, and for backward coupling said signals into a plurality of single-mode signals, each having its own unique mode.

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